

Dynamap[®] Definitions and Statistics

his document contains a listing of geographic area definitions and counts of geographic entities.

U.S. Geographic Area Definitions

POLITICAL AREAS

ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATIONS (ANRCS):

A corporate entity established by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1972 to conduct both business and nonprofit affairs of Alaska Natives. Twelve ANRCs have specific boundaries that together cover the state of Alaska except for the Annette Islands Reserve (an American Indian reservation). A thirteenth corporation represents Alaska Natives not resident in Alaska who do not identify with any of the other 12 corporations. Each ANRC is designed to include Alaska Natives with a common heritage and common interests.

AMERICAN INDIAN RESERVATIONS:

An American Indian entity with boundaries established by treaty, statute, and/or executive or court order that are recognized by the federal government as territory in which American Indian tribes have primary governmental authority.

COUNTIES, PARISHES, STATISTICALLY EQUIVALENT AREAS:

The first order divisions of each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the outlying areas: counties for 48 states; parishes for Louisiana; boroughs and census areas for Alaska; independent cities in Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia; municipios in Puerto Rico; Yellowstone National Park in Montana; other entities in territories.

INCORPORATED PLACES:

A type of governmental unit, incorporated under state law as a city, town (except in New England, New York, and Wis-consin), borough (except in Alaska and New York), or village, having legally prescribed limits, powers, and functions.

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS (MCDs):

A type of governmental unit that is the primary legal subdivision of a county in 28 states, created to govern or administer an area rather than a specific population. The several types of MCDs are identified by a variety of terms, such as town, township, and district, and include both functioning and nonfunctioning governmental units.

SUB-MCD:

A further subdivision of a minor civil division; specifically, a sub-barrio in Puerto Rico. Sub-MCDs are legal subdivisions of MCDs.

STATES:

The 50 states; in addition, we treat the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Palau as State equivalents for statistical presentation.

UNITED STATES:

The 50 states and the District of Columbia.

STATISTICAL AREAS

ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE STATISTICAL AREAS (ANVSAS):

A census statistical entity that represents the settled portion of an Alaska Native village (ANV) as delineated for the U.S. Census Bureau by officials of the ANV or the Alaska native Regional Corporation (ANRC) in which the ANV is located. The U.S. Census Bureau established ANVSAs for the purpose of presenting decennial census data.

BLOCK GROUPS (BG):

A combination of census blocks that is a subdivision of a census tract. A BG consists of all blocks whose numbers begin with the same digit in a given census tract. For example, BG 3 includes all blocks within a census tract numbered between 3001 and 3999.

BLOCK NUMBERING AREAS (BNAS):

An area delineated for the 1990 census by state officials or by the U.S. Census Bureau, following U.S. Census Bureau guidelines, for the purpose of grouping and numbering of decennial census blocks for the 1990 census in counties or statistically equivalent entities in which census tracts had not been established. A BNA was equivalent to a census tract in the U.S. Census Bureau's 1990 census geographic hierarchy.

All 1990 BNAs were replaced by census tracts for Census 2000.

CENSUS BLOCKS:

Small areas bounded on all sides by visible features such as streets, roads, streams, and railroad tracks, and by invisible boundaries such as property lines, legal limits, and short imaginary extensions of streets and roads. Blocks never cross county or census tract boundaries. In rare instances, parts of a block may be discontiguous, but all parts of a tabulation block will be in the same geographic or governmental unit.

CENSUS COUNTY DIVISIONS (CCDs):

Areas delineated by State officials and the local CSACs for statistical purposes. CCDs exist where:

- 1. There are no legally established MCDs
- 2. The MCDs do not have governmental or administrative purposes
- 3. The boundaries of the MCDs change frequently; and/or;
- 4. The MCDs are not generally known to the public

CENSUS DESIGNATED PLACES (CDPs):

Densely settled population centers without legally defined corporate limits or corporate powers, defined in cooperation with State officials and local data users. CDPs do not appear in pre-census TIGER/Line files.

CENSUS TRACTS:

Geographic entities within a county (or statistical equivalent of a county) defined by a committee of local data users. When first established, census tracts should have relatively homogeneous demographic characteristics.

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS (MCDs):

Legally defined subcounty areas such as towns (in eight states) and townships. For the 2000 Census, these occur in 28 states, Puerto Rico, and the Outlying Areas.

TRIBAL DESIGNATED STATISTICAL AREAS (TDSAS):

Geographic areas delineated by tribal officials of recognized tribes that do not have a federally recognized land area. The U.S. Census Bureau first reported

data for TDSAs in the 1990 census, when both federally and state recognized tribes could identify and delineate TDSAs. For Census 2000, TDSAs apply only to federally recognized tribes.

TRIBAL JURISDICTION STATISTICAL AREAS (TJSAS):

Geographic areas delineated by tribal officials in Oklahoma for 1990 census data tabulation purposes.

For Census 2000, Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (OTSAs) replace the 1990 TJSAs.

UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES (UTS):

The statistical equivalent of a minor civil division (MCD) encompassing contiguous area that is not within any legally established MCD or incorporated place. The U.S. Census Bureau identifies UTs in ten states.

U.S. Geographic Area Census Statistics

POLITICAL AREAS:	1990	2000 estimate
United States States:	50	50
DC:	1	1
Outlying areas:	6	6
Counties, parishes, and other statistically	3,248	3,232
equivalent areas:		
Minor Civil Divisions:	30,386	29,390
Incorporated Places:	19,365	19,418
American Indian Reservations:	310	315
Alaska Native Villages:		
Alaska Native Regional Corporations:	12	12

STATISTICAL AREAS:	1990	2000 estimate
Alaska Native Village statistical Areas:	253	272
Tribal Designated statistical Areas:	19	9
Tribal Jurisdiction statistical Areas:	17	
Census County Divisions:	5,581	5,622
Unorganized Territories:	282	299
Other Statistically Equivalent Areas:	40	38
Census Designated Places:	4,423	5,696
Census Tracts:	50,690	65,500
Block Numbering Areas:	11,586	
Block Groups	229,129	209,000
Blocks:	7,017,427	8,500,000

⁻⁻⁻ Not applicable

Canadian Data Definitions

CENSUS DIVISION (CD):

Census Divisions are geographic areas between the province level and census subdivisions. Where provincial law does not designate census divisions, Statistics Canada in cooperation with those provinces has created CDs for statistical purposes. Census Divisions represent areas such as counties, regional districts, regional municipalities and united counties. This information is contained in the County boundary and inventory layers as well as the Street FIPS Information table.

FORWARD SORTATION AREA (FSA):

FSAs correspond to the first three digits of Canada's six digit postal code, designating a postal delivery area. While this file contains the urban and rural areas, rural areas are commonly identified with zero as the second digit. This information is contained in the Postal Code boundary and inventory layers. This data is also provided as segment attribution.

PROVINCE BOUNDARIES:

Province boundaries form the standard tile for Dynamap/Transportation North American data in Canada. This information is contained in the State boundary and inventory layers as well as the Street FIPS Information table. Attributes includes two character abbreviation, two digit province code and name.

TRANS CANADA HIGHWAYS:

The Cross-country Trans Canada Highway system is identified with a shield character of T in the streets layer of Dynamap/Transportation North America.

URBAN AGGLOMERATION (UA):

This describes urban (built-up) areas. Statistics Canada derives the urban/rural designation. An Enumeration Area (EA) is classified as urban if it has a population greater than or equal to 1,000 and a population density greater than or equal to 400 people per square kilometer. This data is contained in the Place boundary layers as well as the Street FIPS Information table.